

A FLAG OF TRUCE.

BY MARTHA McCULLOUGH-WILLIAMS.

(Copyright, 1900, by M. McCulloch-Williams.) Major Hilliard sat in the chimney corner... "You are under enchantment; clean out your mind! I say nothing against this poor girl—but my own, has the marriage been made public?"

Wherever Swan may go, there the tribe of Hinton will go likewise. Perhaps the best thing I can do is to ask you for money enough to take the tribe and vanish. "By the Lord! you shall not! I will not be led! You shall not throw away your life, your future, in this fashion!"

Major Hilliard looked at Swan as though old Nat had not spoken. "I will settle \$10,000 on you if you leave the state and never come back to it," he said. "And give your father half as much tomorrow—upon the same condition."

The house at Wake Forest stood quite three miles from the Tennessee river, yet the plantation ran down to the stream, and Major Hilliard had his own landing. In the third year of the civil war a village of white boys had stretched far back from the water side.

the fiddle beneath her chin. Before Flowtow could protest she had struck up. "Run, Nigger, Run!" looking as she played straight at Flowtow's new servant.

cried. "First to come here—then all those papers. I know what they are, so will I. Man Nat, he taught you, remember, the Murrel clan cipher, so you could write all sorts of things to me."

He gained on them swiftly. They were just thirty yards from him when he rose in his stirrups to cry halt after them. But the cry was drowned in a louder noise—the blurring boom of cavalry guns heavily charged.



"HOLD TIGHT, SWAN, NOW WE HAVE TO RIDE FOR OUR LIVES."

discordant bars, and said: "Let me through—or you'll hear worse than that." All the camp knew her—she had indeed the freedom of more than the army corps.

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